Talks on border dispute between India and China

1049. SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when the next official meeting is likely to be held between India and China on the border dispute; and

(b) whether there is any fresh approach in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No dates have been fixed.

(b) Government's efforts are directed at arriving at a fair and reasonable settlement of the boundary question, consistent with our national interests.

Pak Currency in Kashmir Valley

1050. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistani currency is being used a legal tender in certain areas of Kashmir Valley where militants dominate; if so, what action has been taken by Government against the same;

(b) whether Government are also aware of reports that in certain cases some shopkeepers and traders have refused to accept Indian currency following threats by militants; and

(c)ifso, what action has been taken in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir have informed that there is no such infonnation with them. The report is unfounded.

(c) Does not arise.

Proof of Pakistan's assistance to secessionist activity in Kashmir

1051. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.S. State Department has told the Foreign Secretary of the Government of India that the United States sees no hard evidence and concrete proof of Pakistan officially aiding secessionist activities in Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Construction of roads, bridges and highways by Private Sector

1052. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a policy for participation of private sector in Gonstnictio of roads, bridges and highways;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the total capita] outlay required for the purpose and bow the private sector would be able to harness such resources;

(c) whether it is envisaged that the private sector would raise the capital from the domestic market or from International agencies j and